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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Xiqiang Yang, et al

COLOR PHOTOTHERMOGRAPHIC  
ELEMENTS COMPRISING  
PHENOLIC THERMAL SOLVENTS

Serial No. 09/858,398

Filed May 16, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1752

Examiner: Thorl Chea

I hereby certify that this correspondence was sent by  
facsimile transmission to the United States Patent and  
Trademark Office on the date set forth below.*Robin DePoint*

Robin DePoint

*March 24, 2003*

Date

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**1. Submission required under 37 CFR § 1.114**

- (a) ☐ Previously submitted
- (i) ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR § 1.116 previously filed on
- (ii) ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- (iii) ☐ Other
- (b) ☒ Enclosed
- (i) ☒ Amendment/Reply
- (ii) ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- (iii) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- (iv) ☐ Other

**2. Miscellaneous**

- (a) ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) of a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months: Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- (b) ☐ Other

**3.****Fees**

03/27/2003 RWIMBUSH 00000003 050224

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments to Eastman Kodak Company Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

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**A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.**

- ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(e)
- ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR § 1.136 and 1.117)

Respectfully submitted,

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Preliminary to the Examination, please amend the above-identified  
application without prejudice as follows.

**In the Claims:**

Please delete claims 1 to 28 without prejudice to the possibility of  
filing a divisional application.

Please also delete claims 29 to 44 and replace them with the  
following new claims 45 to 75:

-- 45. A method of image formation comprising the following steps  
of

(a) developing an imagewise exposed photothermographic element  
that is a photographic film comprising at least three light-sensitive units which  
have their individual sensitivities in different wavelength regions, each of the  
units comprising at least one light-sensitive silver-halide emulsion, binder, and  
dye-providing coupler, and a blocked developer which blocked developer and

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